

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Tonight, Congressman McCarthy issued the following statement after President Obama delivered the State of the Union address:

“America stands at a crossroads at the beginning of a new decade, faced with a choice - continuing the wasteful Washington ways of spending and big government, or redirecting our nation onto a path of prosperity by allowing America’s entrepreneurial spirit to thrive once again without the burden of government.

“Last year, rather than listening to millions of Americans and focusing on the most important national priority – improving our jobs situation, the Democrat-controlled Congress instead wrote legislation behind closed doors and forced through misguided bills, like the \$787 billion stimulus which the Administration promised would keep unemployment below 8 percent, a cap and tax bill that would cost every American family thousands of dollars in additional energy expenses, and a trillion dollar government takeover of health care. All the while, millions of jobs were lost and the unemployment rate skyrocketed nationally to double digits.

“And in our home State of California, our families are suffering as they cope with over 12 percent unemployment, exacerbated in many areas by a man-made drought caused by placing fish over people. The Obama Administration and Democratic Congressional leaders should heed the call from our parched Valley to turn on the water. They need to understand what we already know – ‘jobs grow where water flows.’

“2010 offers us a fresh start, with the opportunity to listen to the American people and focus on common-sense solutions that can revive our struggling economy, create jobs, and leave a positive fiscal environment for our children. Without smarter spending and a real commitment to reducing the deficit, we are committing generational theft. We cannot keep adding to our \$12 trillion national debt by borrowing money from China and other countries.

“Tonight, the President called on Congress to work in a spirit of bipartisanship, to focus on making better lives for ourselves and our children. I agree with him that we need to work together on common-sense solutions to the problems our families are facing, most urgently the need to strengthen our economy and do everything we can to get people back to work. I urge the President and our Democratic Leaders in Congress to take a hard look at suggestions Republicans have made – reduce burdensome regulations, stop looming tax increases, approve

free trade agreements, and tackle our multi-trillion dollar debt. Solutions for America's challenges are right in front of us, and we can work together, with the American people, to better our country for ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren."

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